(b) if so, whether the said set procedure is also being adopted in allotment of new and additional bookstalls to M/s. A.H. Wheeler & Co.;

(c) if not, what are the detailed reasons therefor;

(d) what are the names of stations where the contract of bookstalls is held by M/s. A.H. Wheeler & Co.; and

(e) the names of stations where the contract of bookstalls is held by Higginbothams Ltd.; Serva Seva Sangh Prakashan and Gita Press, Gorakhpur etc.?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The number of bookstalls held by M/s. A.H. Wheeler & Co. is frozen.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) and (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Mobile Exhibition by Railways

†5210. SHRIMATI SAVITA SHARDA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether railways propose to carry "Mobile Scientific Exhibition" in the country with the aim of giving the message of unity to the citizens of the country on the occasion of 150th anniversary of its inception;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) to which parts of the country this exhibition will be carried to at first and by when the said exhibition is likely to be started ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA): (a) to (c) A proposal from Department of Science & Technology has been received for running a "Mobile Scientific Exhibition" in the country. Accordingly, cost estimates for running the train have been furnished to the Department of Science & Technology for their acceptance. It has no connection with the 150th Anniversary of the Railways.

Railway projects in Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra and Chhattisgarh

†5211. SHRI P.K. MAHESHWARI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the names of pending railway projects in Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra and Chhattisgarh;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) whether these railway projects have been abandoned; and

(c) the reasons for not starting the railway projects of these States, which are pending for ten years ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA) : (a) and (b) There are no pending Railway projects in Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra and Chhattisgarh for which clearances are to be obtained. However, a number of projects as included in the Budget are in various stages of progress.

(c) There are no projects in these States which have been included in the Budget more than ten year back and not taken up.

Safety measures in ladies compartments

5212. SHRI N.K. PREMACHANDRAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways are aware that the safety measures are inadequate in the ladies compartments of trains in Kerala;

(b) whether Railways propose to introduce adequate safety measures to protect the interest of women passengers;

(c) whether Railways propose to depute women police in the ladies compartment; and

(d) if so, the details of the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Though maintenance of law and order and control of crime on Railway premises including Railway Stations and running trains is the responsibility of the State Government concerned, the Railways co-ordinate with the State Governments for ensuring better security to the passengers. The Railway administration has taken the following steps :

1. Anti-social elements are being removed from Railway premises and trains by RPF.
2. Coach Attendants/TTEs keeps proper watch on the passengers' entering/detraining from the coaches.
3. Coaches are locked during night hours.
4. FIR forms are made available with the Train Guards/Station Masters/ RPF to facilitate the travelling public to lodge their reports immediately.